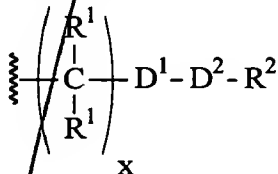
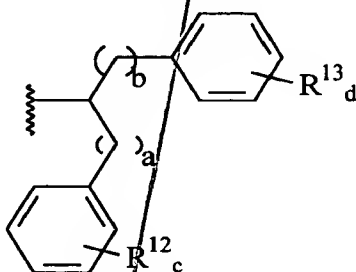


- (a)  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:

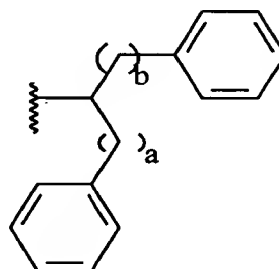


with the proviso that at  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

- (i) each  $R^1$  is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group;
- (ii)  $x$  is 0 or 1;
- (iii) each  $R^2$  is independently selected from the group consisting of:



and

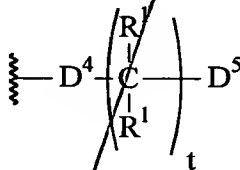


wherein:

- (a)  $a$  is at least about 2;
- (b)  $b$  is at least about 2;
- (c)  $c$  is 1 to about 3;
- (d)  $d$  is 1 to about 3; and
- (e)  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

(iv) D<sup>1</sup> and D<sup>2</sup> are each independently selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -NH-; with the proviso that wherein when D<sup>1</sup> is -NH- then D<sup>2</sup> is -C(O)-, and wherein when D<sup>2</sup> is -NH- then D<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)-;

(b)  $A^3$  has the structure:



**wherein:**

- (i) each  $R^1$  is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;
- (ii)  $t$  is from 0 to about 6;
- (iii)  $D^4$  is  $-\text{CH}(R^1)-$ ;
- (iv)  $D^5$  is  $-\text{OR}^6$ ; and
- (v)  $R^6$  is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

(Please add new Claim 18 as follows:)

18. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

**(Please add new Claim 19 as follows:)**

19. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 0.

(Please add new Claim 20 as follows:)

20. The compound according to Claim 19 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)- and D<sup>2</sup> is -NH-.

(Please add new Claim 21 as follows:)

21. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -C(O)- and D<sup>2</sup> is -NH-.

(Please add new Claim 22 as follows:)

22. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D<sup>1</sup> is -NH- and D<sup>2</sup> is -C(O)-.